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(*b*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—The investigation made by the police showed that on the night in question a party of British soldiers did assault the complainants. The Military authorities held an identification parade on the 19th November 1935 but as the complainants failed to identify the alleged assailants further action could not be taken.

Irrigation

Failure of freshes in the Cauvery channels of Namakkal taluk.

* 696 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on account of the rains in the Tanjore Delta, and consequent shutting up of water tightly in the Mettur Dam, failures of water in the Cauvery channels of Namakkal taluk have occurred;

(*b*) how many times such failures have occurred so far; and

(*c*) what the loss caused to the ryots is by such failures, and how long such failures lasted during each time?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Four times, once in each of the months of August, October, November and December 1935.

(*c*) The extent of loss due to short supply cannot be readily estimated. It was probably slight. The duration of shortage in supply was five days in August, four days in October, four days in November and about six days in December 1935.

Failure of freshes in the Cauvery channels in Namakkal taluk, Salem district.

* 697 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that water has failed in the Cauvery channels in Namakkal taluk of Salem district during October last on account of stoppage of water at Mettur owing to the fact of the area at Tanjore and Trichinopoly having sufficient supply on account of freshes in the tributaries (Noyyal and Amaravathi) which join the river Cauvery down below the point where the Korambu for Salem area exists;

(*b*) if so, how long water has failed in the channels;

(*c*) what will be the estimated loss of crops on account of such a failure;

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(*d*) how many such failures have occurred during the course of 1934 and 1935;

(*e*) what action the Government have taken to remedy such a defect; and

(*f*) whether any orders have been passed in the matter and, if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to question No. 686 on 23rd February 1935 and to question No. 696.

(*e*) & (*f*) The conditions of supply for the channels in the Salem district are being carefully examined. When the shortage occurred in November 1935, Korambus were formed at the heads of the channels.

Land Revenue Administration

Restrictions on the sale of property mortgaged under the Land Improvement Act or Agricultural Loans Act.

* 698 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a pattadar who borrows under the Land Improvement Act or Agricultural Loans Act is prohibited from selling his property subject to bearing the burden of the loan taken by him;

(*b*) whether the subsequent purchaser is being compelled to pay up the full loan irrespective of the instalments originally agreed upon;

(*c*) whether certain Tahsildars in Anantapur are collecting the full amount in one lump from such subsequent alienees; and

(*d*) whether the methods adopted by such Tahsildars are authorized by any rules or Government Orders?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) According to the rules, the balance of the loan outstanding on the date of the transfer with interest thereon at the same rate at which the original loan was granted, is calculated and the amount is made repayable in equal annual instalments.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have no information on the point mentioned in clause (*c*) but have called for a report.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I know whether a report was received after the question was asked? "

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" I have not seen any report. I understand it has not been received."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" Apart from that, may I request the Hon. Member to circularize all the Tahsildars in the Presidency inasmuch as they have been practically breaking the rules? "